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Senate Confirms Bush, 64 to 27, As Central Intelligence Director

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 27—The Senate confirmed today President Ford's nomination of George Bush, now the chief American representative in China, to be Director of Central Intelligence.

A group of Republican conservatives teamed up with liberals and moderates from both sides of the aisle to overwhelm liberal Democratic opposition to Mr. Bush's nomination by a vote of 64 to 27.

Supporters of Mr. Bush hailed the former Representative from Texas, United States ambassador to the United Nations and chief of the United States liaison office in Peking as a man of brilliance and integrity who would do an able job directing the Central Intelligence Agency.

2-Hour Debate

But opponents pointed to Mr. Bush's prior national chairmanship of the Republican Party as evidence that the President was seeking to "politicize" the scandal-plagued C.I.A. during the worst crisis in the agency's 29-year history.

During two hours of debate on the Bush nomination before

this afternoon's vote, seven Democratic opponents of the 51-year old Texan rose on the Senate floor to applaud all of his qualifications but one—his close connection with the leadership of the Republican Party.

"The question of political nomination does not inspire public confidence at a time when the C.I.A. needs public confidence," said Senator Thomas J. McIntyre, the New Hampshire Democrat who was the floor manager of the opposition to Mr. Bush.

Senator McIntyre said the "American public is sick to death of suspect politics and richly deserving of a C.I.A. director in whom they can put their immediate trust and confidence."

Senator Gary Hart, Democrat of Colorado, noted that none of the previous eight C.I.A. directors "has come from political life." He argued that to install one now on the heels of the C.I.A.'s involvement in the Watergate scandal would further weaken an office that has been "misused and abused by Presidents of both parties."

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